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COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ON THE THEME OF THE 1995 COORDINATION SEGMENT OF THE COUNCIL

Report of the Secretary-General

This report is in follow-up to agreed conclusions 1995/1 on coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, which were approved by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 (see A/50/3, chap. III, para. 22).

In order to facilitate the work of the Council, this report follows a dual column layout. The left-hand column contains those paragraphs of the agreed conclusions that call for action. The right-hand column shows the status of follow-up corresponding to each action set out in the agreed conclusions.

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AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
I. INTERGOVERNMENTAL LEVEL A. Role of the General Assembly	
4.1. The General Assembly, in its capacity as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to economic, social and related fields, has the overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation of conference results and facilitating and reviewing the progress achieved.	The agenda of the General Assembly contains a number of items specifically related the follow-up to major conferences. Recent examples include item 161, Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development; item 102, Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; item 96 (a), Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and (e), Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; item 105, Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family; item 107, Advancement of women; item 165, Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women; and item 112 (d), Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. The General Assembly will hold a special session in June 1997 for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 (see Assembly resolution 50/113).
4.2. The Economic and Social Council shall assist in this task by making recommendations to the General Assembly on policies for an effective, efficient and coordinated follow-up to major international conferences.	The Council is expected to provide recommendations with regard to the outcome of the 1996 coordination segment and the discussions during the general segment.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
5.1. The Council recommends that the General Assembly also address, within the framework of the discussions on an agenda for development, the integrated consideration of the themes common to major international conferences with a view to promoting better coherence and providing harmonized and integrated policy guidance.	The resolution on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, adopted by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, on 24 May 1996, identifies a number of measures to promote greater coherence and complementarity between the work of the Second and Third Committees (resolution 50/227, annex I, paras. 21-24).
5.2. To this end, the General Assembly may consider improving the coherence of its Committees to ensure that the system is equipped to follow up effectively the integrated approach related to the outcomes of United Nations conferences. This should also result in improved complementarity and coherence in the follow-up to United Nations conferences between the Council and the General Assembly.	The General Assembly has not yet concluded its discussions on an agenda for development. However, in chapter 3 (institutional issues and follow-up) of the draft agenda for development, a number of paragraphs deal with the coordinated follow-up to conferences as well as greater coherence in the work of the Second and Third Committees (see A/AC.250/CRP.1/Add.1).
B. Strengthening the role of the Economic and Social Council	
6.1. The Economic and Social Council shall promote a coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields. Each year, within the framework of its coordination segment, the Council shall carry out a review of cross-cutting themes common to major international conferences and/or contribute to an overall review of the implementation of the programme of action of a United Nations conference.	The Council, at its 60th plenary meeting, on 12 December 1995, decided that the coordination segment of its substantive session of 1996 should be devoted to consideration of the coordination of the activities of the United Nations system for the eradication of poverty (decision 1995/321). Consideration of the theme is to focus on three areas: (i) coordination of United Nations support for and availability of resources to the United Nations system for facilitating national poverty eradication plans and programmes and providing basic social services, particularly at the field level; (ii) coordination of United Nations efforts to ensure that all its activities for poverty eradication take fully into account the gender perspective; (iii) ways of monitoring the performance of the United Nations in poverty eradication, in the context of the harmonization of the multi-year programmes of work of the functional commissions of the Council (see E/1996/61).

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
6.2. The theme related to the follow-up of conferences, to be considered at the coordination segment, shall be chosen at the Council's previous substantive session to allow for adequate preparations by the functional commissions, other relevant intergovernmental bodies and the Secretariat.	The Council should decide at its present session on the theme for the coordination segment of its forthcoming session.
6.3. The Secretary-General is invited, taking into account the suggestions made in paragraph 57 of his report (E/1995/86) and based on the work of relevant organs of the United Nations system and specialized agencies, to offer suggestions for possible common themes for consideration and decision by the Council.	Following appropriate consultations, the Secretary-General will offer suggestions for possible common themes for consideration and decision by the Council at its present session.
7.1. Drawing on the reports of the functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies, the Secretariat shall prepare a single consolidated report outlining the activities being carried out by the United Nations system in order to achieve the goals and objective related to the chosen theme and identifying the coordination and policy issues, at all levels, to be addressed by the Council and the General Assembly. The report shall contain an analysis of progress achieved and problems encountered as well as specific recommendations.	See the report of the Secretary-General, for consideration during the coordination segment, on the coordination of United Nations system activities for poverty eradication (E/1996/61), in particular section III.
8.1. The consideration by the Council of the chosen theme could benefit from the active participation, through the submission of reports and dialogue, of the funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the relevant special agencies, including the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the World Trade Organization, as appropriate. The Council should develop a more focused dialogue with them.	The report of the Secretary-General for the coordination segment (E/1996/61) contains material submitted by the United Nations funds and programmes as well as the Bretton Woods institutions. It is expected that the funds and programmes, the regional commissions, relevant specialized agencies, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the World Trade Organization will participate actively and at an appropriately high level in the discussions of the Council during the coordination segment.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
9.1. The operational activities segment, within its role of providing overall coordination and guidance to the United Nations development system, may, in addition to the segment functions identified in General Assembly resolution 48/162, also consider themes related to the follow-up to major international conferences.	At the present session, the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment is devoted to strengthened cooperation between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations development system, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/50, paragraph 6, and General Assembly resolution 50/120, paragraph 48. A note by the Secretariat has been prepared to facilitate the Council's consideration of the subject. Other subjects related to the follow-up of conferences will be discussed during the segment, including in the context of the review of reports of the Executive Boards of United Nations funds and programmes.
10.1. Reports of the functional commissions considered by the Council in its general segment should clearly identify issues that require the attention of the Council and/or a coordinated response.	Chapter I of the report of each functional commission contains matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention. See also General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68.
11.1. The Council stresses the need to further review its work programme and working methods with a view to better fulfilling its responsibilities for coordination, guidance and conference follow-up. 12.1. In the context of the coordinated follow-up to major international conferences, improvements are needed in the functioning of the relevant segments.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 53-67. Specific attention is also being given to the work and functioning of the Council and the relevant segments in the context of the discussions on an agenda for development.
13.1. In the follow-up to United Nations conferences, the Economic and Social Council shall ensure the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions by promoting a clear division of labour among them and providing clear policy guidance to them. To this end, better preparation of the meetings of the Council should be assured.	See the background document on harmonization and coordination of the agendas and multi-year programmes of work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, which has been prepared for the general segment of the Council.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
13.2. The Council could periodically organize meetings on specific issues to allow for more dialogue with the chairpersons and the secretariats, as appropriate, of the functional commissions, other subsidiary and related bodies and the relevant executive boards.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraph 40.
13.3. If an effective and coordinated follow-up process suggests the need, then the consolidation of activities of subsidiary bodies may be considered, as appropriate. The aim of sustaining and strengthening the quality and impact of the output of these bodies must be assured.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraph 70.
14. The regional commissions shall play an important role in assisting countries in each region in the implementation of the recommendations of conferences.	The regional commissions were active participants in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, as well as other recent conferences. With regard to follow-up, the work programmes of the regional commissions have taken into account the implications of major conferences; for example, in the context of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Economic Commission for Africa assisted Member States in their efforts to incorporate the environmental dimension into the socio-economic development planning process. Training was also provided to strengthen capacities for undertaking environmental impact assessments, taking into account region-specific energy problems, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean plans to hold a regional meeting as a follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development in 1996, offering a regional forum for analysing and comparing viewpoints and promoting cooperation. Other regional commissions have also adopted subprogrammes that reflect the implications of major conferences.
14.1. The Council and the General Assembly shall take appropriate measures to ensure that the regional commission can carry out this task effectively.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 74 and 75.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
14.2. The Council shall enhance coordination with and among the regional commissions, including through their more effective participation in its substantive work relating to conference follow-up, as indicated in paragraph 8.1 above.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 74 and 75.
C. Streamlining the work and strengthening the role of the functional commissions 16. The Council notes the present practice of assigning one functional commission or relevant intergovernmental body with the primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the implementation of each conference. Inevitably, there may be some overlap and cases, when the themes and/or recommendations from different conferences are closely related, where one commission may have the responsibility for following up all aspects of a theme common to several conferences or where such responsibility may be shared.	No follow-up is required.
16.1. The functional commissions, within their respective mandates, should develop multi-year programmes of work for the follow-up and review of conference programmes of action.	The Commission on Sustainable Development, the Commission on Population and Development and the Commission on the Status of Women have adopted multi-year programmes of work; the Commission for Social Development is expected to adopt one at its special session of 1996 (New York, 21-31 May).
16.2. The Council, in cooperation with its functional commissions, shall ensure a better division of labour among them and coordination among their multi-year programmes and shall clarify the particular forms under which common themes should be considered by them. This would require that each commission or body focus on the core issues relating to the conference for which it is responsible and obtain inputs from other relevant bodies on related issues.	See the report of the Secretary-General on poverty eradication (E/1996/61), which is before the Council for consideration during the coordination segment, and the background document concerning harmonization of the work programmes of the functional commissions of the Council, prepared for the general segment.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
17.1. The mandates, composition and working methods of the functional commissions should be further reviewed, as appropriate, based on the scope of work involved, and adjusted accordingly, to enable them to achieve greater coherence and mutual reinforcement and to better assist the Council in a strengthened and action-oriented manner in the coordinated follow-up and review of the progress of implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 70-73.
II. INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION AT ALL LEVELS 18. The Economic and Social Council takes note of the steps taken to enhance the effectiveness and improve the functioning of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and its subsidiary bodies.	
18.1. Measures should be taken to further strengthen the role of ACC and its standing committees and ensure the systematic exchange of information and a rational division of labour between its standing committees, as well as between established ACC machinery and ad hoc mechanisms set up in the context of the follow-up to individual conferences. The examples of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the inter-agency task force on the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development could be useful for the follow-up to other conferences but should not be seen as an automatic precedent.	In order to contribute to a coordinated and integrated follow-up at the global level, ACC has decided that it would review the implementation of the results of recent global conferences on the basis of a thematic approach, drawing on the work of its standing machinery and other relevant inter-agency mechanisms. The selection of the themes for such reviews would take into account the need to monitor progress in the implementation of conference results and to provide the Council, particularly its coordination segment, with consolidated information, analyses and assessment of system-wide activities in support of the Council's own thematic reviews (see the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1995 (E/1996/18)). With regard to national level arrangements, inter-agency task forces have been established by ACC to address basic social services for all, employment and sustainable livelihoods, and the enabling environment for social and economic development. The task forces

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
	are to assure integrated and coordinated follow-up actions to the conferences by the United Nations system, and to provide the needed support and inputs to the United Nations resident coordinator and United Nations country teams in translating the outcomes of United Nations global conferences into concrete national policies and programmes. ACC has also decided to establish an Inter-Agency Committee on Women for follow-up of the Fourth World Conference on Women (see the annual overview report of ACC for 1995 (E/1996/18)).
18.2. ACC is invited to bring system-wide coordination issues to the attention of the Council and to make recommendations thereon.	The annual overview report of ACC for 1995 (E/1996/18), which is to be considered during the coordination segment, identifies a number of system-wide coordination issues, including the coordinated follow-up to recent international conferences, United Nations system support for African economic recovery and development, and poverty eradication.
18.3. Wider distribution of the report of ACC and further information for Member States on its work would be highly desirable.	At the present session, the Council will have before it the sections of the annual overview report of ACC for 1995 (E/1996/18), dealing with coordinated follow-up to recent international conferences and African economic recovery and development, as well as the report of the twenty-ninth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and ACC on the subject of poverty eradication (E/1996/4 and Corr.1).
18.4. The relevant intergovernmental bodies should be kept fully informed of the establishment of any inter-agency task forces for the follow-up to conferences and of the work undertaken by them on a regular basis.	See the annual overview report of ACC for 1995 (E/1996/18).
19. At the country level, the national Government has the primary responsibility for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, follow-up activities of conferences.	See the ACC statement on follow-up to General Assembly resolution 50/120.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
19.1. The follow-up of activities that are relevant to the mandates of operational activities for development of the United Nations should, through the resident coordinator system, take into account common themes and goals and should be within the framework of national plans and strategies and the country strategy note, where they exist or are in preparation.	At the country level, important cooperative initiatives have been launched by the United Nations system in many countries. In parallel with the establishment of the three inter-agency task forces, the resident coordinator system, with the support of the global task forces, are using thematic groups to integrate further the implementation at the country level of policy recommendations emanating from recent global conferences. The resident coordinator system provides substantive leadership in such cross-cutting issues as human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) or follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. It is playing an important role in post-conflict peace-building and in meeting humanitarian crises in several countries (see also the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/120 (E/1996/64 and Add.1 and 2)). ACC has encouraged organizations that have not already done so to promote collaborative actions at the country level under the overall leadership of the resident coordinator. In this regard, ACC has encouraged the resident coordinators to keep organizations, particularly those without field representation, fully informed of developments at the country level. See also the ACC statement on follow-up to General Assembly resolution 50/120.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
19.2. In line with General Assembly resolution 47/199, the resident coordinator, in consultation with the Government and in the light of national priorities, could utilize thematic groups composed of the agencies concerned, with a designated lead agency or task manager under his or her overall leadership, to serve as the coordination mechanism with the responsibility of developing integrated approaches for the realization of common goals, including, where appropriate, the development of a common data system at the national level to facilitate reviewing and reporting on the progress achieved.	Under the leadership of the resident coordinator, thematic teams are functioning with designated lead agencies and task managers. They help to develop and implement common approaches in accordance with national priorities, taking into account the country strategy note where it exists, and the framework designated by the Government where it does not (see also A/50/202-E/1995/76, para. 35; the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/120 (E/1996/64 and Add.1 and 2); and the note by the Secretariat on strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions). The record of field programme committees and thematic working groups suggests varying degrees of success; where a specific task or event around which to work existed, such as the follow-up of a round table or a particular issue that involved several agencies and national officials, the groups appear to have worked substantively together and to have strengthened the system's output. But where meetings did not have such a common impulse they met only sporadically and with little evident value added (see A/50/202-E/1995/76, annex, para. 147). The subject of thematic groups is touched upon in the field coordination section of the report of the Secretary-General (E/1996/64 and Add.1 and 2) on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/120 and 47/199. In addition, the report, in the section dealing with harmonization, mentions the development of a common database in a project of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy called Common Country Assessment. See also the ACC statement on follow-up to General Assembly resolution 50/120.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
III. REPORTING	
20. In the preparation of reports by the Secretariat for the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, greater use could be made of the practice of having task managers so that a particular United Nations agency would be responsible for coordinating the response of the entire United Nations system on a given subject, including the formulation of recommendations for future action. All reports should be presented in a timely manner and in a concise format, clearly identifying the issues and outlining options for action and their implications, so as to enable the Council and its subsidiary bodies to take decisions.	Arrangements have been made in establishing the inter-agency task forces to identify lead agencies that will continue to act as task managers on their respective themes following the completion of the task forces' work. In the past year, an effort has been made to present reports of the Secretary-General in a clear and concise manner with specific recommendations for action or options to facilitate the work of the intergovernmental bodies (e.g. the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/50/202-E/1995/76) and coordinated follow-up to major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields (E/1995/86)).
20.1. The Secretary-General is requested to present proposals, for consideration by the Council in 1996 and by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, on the simplification of existing reporting requirements, taking into account the reports that will be required for the follow-up of United Nations conferences.	ACC continued to pursue the issue of streamlining reporting requirements under the active consideration of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD) (see the annual overview report of ACC for 1995 (E/1996/18), sect. II.E).
21. Other methods for the promotion of integrated reporting by the Secretariat should be explored.	Recommendations on the simplification of reporting were made in two earlier reports (E/1994/88 and A/50/697), as well as in the report of the Secretary-General on poverty eradication (E/1996/61) and the background document concerning harmonization of the work programmes of the functional commissions of the Council.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
21.1. Requests for reports should be limited to the minimum strictly necessary. The Secretary-General should use information and data already provided by Governments to the maximum extent possible, avoiding duplication in requests for such information.	Although the need for streamlining reporting has been stressed repeatedly, the question of the level of reporting required has not been addressed by intergovernmental bodies. Within the United Nations family, various initiatives are under way with respect to the issue of reporting: (a) The Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat has examined options for document consolidation and/or integration in an effort to improve efficiency in reporting related to the follow-up of major conferences. The report on poverty eradication (E/1996/61) is an example of a single consolidated report; (b) The Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat is coordinating the United Nations Data System Task Force, which held its first meeting in February 1996. The broad purpose is to develop a coordinated and consistent methodological approach to data collection across the United Nations system in response to the demands on national Governments in connection with monitoring the achievement of goals that have emerged from various summit conferences; (c) IACSD has invited the task managers of its Task Force on National Strategies to take the lead in enhancing the consistency of requests for information in areas where overlap has been identified and of related questionnaires, and to make effective use of the information already available, as part of a process leading to the streamlining of reports;

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
	(d) To avoid duplication and save costs, the major authors of global reports (the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Resources Institute and the Earth Council) are discussing the establishment of a consortium of global report producers, which would allow the use of a common data and knowledge base, including indicators, models, scenarios and expert systems; (e) UNDP has established a working group on strengthening cooperation among the Bretton Woods institutions, UNDP, the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which would include information gathering and data collection; (f) The Joint Consultative Group on Policy, consisting of UNDP, UNFPA, the World Food Programme, UNICEF and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), is attempting to harmonize programming procedures for common country assessments within the resident coordinator system.
22. The Council stresses that the voluntary submission of national information, including, for example, information in the form of periodic communications or national reports by Governments, represents a valuable contribution for the follow-up and review of the implementation of the recommendations of relevant conferences.	No action is required.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
22.1. The Secretary-General is requested to prepare a standardized and simplified format that could be used by Governments in preparing information on a single subject or in clusters of subjects.	The Secretariat, at the request of the General Assembly, is preparing country profiles for the Assembly's special session to be held in June 1997 for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21. Each profile will include certain basic statistical data and indicators already commonly collected by and in use within the United Nations system. The profiles will have the same format, and could form the basis for future monitoring and reporting (see also E/CN.17/1996/19). Similar efforts will need to be pursued in the follow-up to other conferences.
IV. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS, THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION	
23.1. The Council emphasizes the need to further enhance the interaction and cooperation between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization at all levels, inter alia, to ensure effective follow-up to major international conferences. It notes also that the question of cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions will also be addressed within the framework of the discussions on an agenda for development.	The Council will address this question during the operational activities segment of its present session on the basis of a note by the Secretariat. See also General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 84-88. The World Bank has indicated that the recommendations emanating from United Nations global conferences have already been incorporated into its lending policies, and are reflected in its work in the areas of education, health, population and nutrition. Its decision to accept the lead responsibility for the inter-agency task force on the enabling environment is a reflection of its broader and deeper collaboration and partnership with the United Nations.

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
	The International Monetary Fund (IMF) indicates that approaches emanating from the major international conferences have been incorporated by IMF management in its advocacy of high-quality growth - that is, growth that incorporates sustainable development as well as equity elements. As for the relationship between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Secretary-General and the Director-General of WTO agreed on a flexible framework for cooperation, open to further review and adaptation in the light of new developments and emerging requirements, taking into account the experience in the relations between the United Nations and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Relations between the United Nations and WTO will thus include the provision and exchange of relevant information, reciprocal representation, in accordance with the decisions of the competent bodies of the respective organizations, participation of WTO in ACC and its subsidiary bodies, cooperation between secretariats, including cooperation in the statistical area, and administrative matters (see also E/1995/125). In some countries, the relationship between United Nations programmes and other agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions is already very close and includes complementary and mutually supportive roles in such critical areas as capacity-building and poverty elimination (see also A/50/202-E/1995/76, para. 97, E/1996/61 and E/1996/64 and Add.1 and 2). Many countries have advocated closer links between the United Nations system's technical cooperation and the Bretton Woods institutions' technical assistance, particularly for free-standing technical assistance unrelated to specific capital investment projects. The Bretton Woods institutions have indicated that they are prepared to

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
	cooperate with the United Nations system in the preparation of the country strategy note (see also A/50/202-E/1995/76, para. 98, and the note by the Secretariat on strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions). The question of how to further enhance the interaction and cooperation between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and WTO at all levels is also being addressed within the framework of the discussions on an agenda for development.
V. COORDINATION IN THE SECRETARIAT 24.1. Efforts towards coordinated follow-up to international conferences also require appropriate measures to avoid and/or eliminate duplication of functions within the United Nations Secretariat, in conformity with the mandates provided in relevant General Assembly resolutions.	See General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paras. 89 and 90. In addition, specific attention is being given to the functioning of the Secretariat within the context of the discussions on an agenda for development and by the High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations system.
VI. MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES 25.1. Effective follow-up to conferences requires the urgent mobilization of resources for implementation. It is therefore critical to bring together the political will to mobilize and make available the necessary resources from all sources, public and private, both financial and human, at the national and international levels, if Member States, the United Nations system and the international community as a whole are to mount a full and effective response to conference agendas.	

AGREED CONCLUSIONS 1995/1	FOLLOW-UP
To this end, it is important to enhance the effectiveness of official development assistance (ODA) and to increase it with the objective of achieving the accepted United Nations target for ODA of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) - as reaffirmed by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in paragraph 33.13 of Agenda 21 and by other relevant international conferences, such as the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development - as soon as possible.	Total ODA of the members of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development as a percentage of their combined GNP dropped from 0.31 per cent in 1993 to 0.30 per cent in 1994, the lowest level since 1973 (see E/CN.17/1996/4/Add.1).
The mobilization of substantial new and additional resources from all sources, domestic and international, public and private, and from traditional and new sources in accordance with the relevant provisions of the programmes of action, would also be instrumental.	The topic of new and innovative ideas for generating funds will be under discussion at the present session on the basis of a note by the Secretariat. The note will contain the main ideas and proposals emanating from the documents of United Nations committees and bodies and United Nations-sponsored and independent studies. See also General Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paragraphs 1-17.